

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5359

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 1517

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, TZ, UK

SUBJ: TANZANIA SEVERES ALL SPORTS LINKS WITH UK

1. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY IN TANZANIAN MINISTRY OF NATIONAL CULTURE AND YOUTH, H. SEMBUCHE, ANNOUNCED MAY 10 THAT ALL SPORTS LINKS WITH BRITAIN HAVE BEEN SEVERED AS RESULT OF SOUTH AFRICAN TOUR BY BRITISH RUGBY TEAM. SEMBUCHE SAID DECISION WAS EFFECTED FROM MOMENT RUGBY TEAM ARRIVED IN SOUTH AFRICA. SEMBUCHE EXPLAINED, "TANZANIA CANNOT CONDONE SPORTS LINKS WITH STATES IN WHICH REPRESENTATION IS DETERMINED ON COLOR OF PLAYER, RATHER THAN MERIT. THOSE WHO COLLABORATE WITH RACISTS AND HAVE COMPETITIONS WITH THEM CANNOT EXPECT TO BE OUR FIRENDS". SEMBUCHE ADDED DECISION IS IN LINE WITH TANGOV POLICY AND IN SUPPORT OF APPEAL IN TUNIS LAST MONTH BY SUPREME COUNCIL FOR SPORTS IN AFRICA (SCSA) TO IMPOSE SPORTS BOYCOTT ON UK IF RUGBY TOUR TOOK PLACE.

2. MINISTER FOR NATIONAL CULTURE AND YOUTH, GENERAL SARAHIKYA, EMPHASIZED MAY 15 THAT MEMBER COUNTRIES OF SCSA MUST HEED CALL TO BREAK OFF SPORTS RELATIONS WITH UK NOW THAT RUGBY TOUR HAS TAKEN PLACE. SARAHIKYA ADDED THAT TANZANIAN "BAN WILL STAY ON UNTIL SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN COMPLETELY STOPPING BRITISH TEAMS FROM TOURING SOUTH AFRICAN AND RDODESIA."
BEYER

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